

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 ADP-00 CPR-02 ABF-01

NASA-04 USIE-00 NSC-10 INT-08 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00

SCI-06 M-03 PA-03 PRS-01 CU-04 AS-01 /117 R

DRAFTED BY A/ OPR - J. E. CLARK

5/15/73 EXT. 21638

APPROVED BY S/ CPR: B. W. WHITEHEAD

AF/ P - J. H. POPE

EA/ RA - T. H. WARREN

EUR/ SPP - H. Y. MCCOWN

NEA/ RA - R. W. CHASE

A/ OPR - J. M. THOMAS

A/ BF - R. W. MURRAY

NASA - O. B. LLOYD

USIA - H. O. GREEN

NSC: DELLIOTT

INT/ DASTA: JEDEYOUNG

S/ S: MR. BARNES

----- 094108

O 172007 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

HICOMTERPACIS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 094536

E. O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS. AFTER VISIT  
TAGS: OVIP

FOR THE AMBASSADOR AND HIGH COMMISSIONER

SUBJECT: CHALLENGER

THE WHITE HOUSE WILL OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCE TO THE PRESS AT  
1100 MAY 18, 1973, THE APOLLO 17 GOODWILL TOUR. YOU  
MAY WISH TO INFORM HOST GOVERNMENT TIMING OF RELEASE FOR  
SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT. PROPOSED TEXT FOLLOWS:

PRESIDENT NIXON HAS ASKED THE APOLLO 17 ASTRONAUTS  
EUGENE A. CERNAN, RONALD E. EVANS, AND HARRISON H.  
SCHMITT TO VISIT SENEGAL, NIGER, NIGERIA, CAMEROON,  
PAKISTAN, INDIA, SINGAPORE, INDONESIA, PHILIPPINES,  
MICRONESIA, AND FIJI. IN ADDITION, REST STOPS ARE  
PLANNED IN LAS PALMAS, IVORY COAST, AND KENYA. THEY  
WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. CERNAN AND MRS. EVANS ON  
THIS GOODWILL TOUR.

THIS TOUR, LIKE EARLIER OVERSEAS TOURS OF THE APOLLO  
ASTRONAUTS, WILL BE A PRESIDENTIAL GOODWILL MISSION IN  
WHAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS CALLED QUOTE THE SPIRIT OF  
APOLLO UNQUOTE. THE ASTRONAUTS WILL SHARE THEIR FINDINGS  
OF THE APOLLO MISSION WITH THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITIES OF

THE COUNTRIES VISITED AND WILL ALSO ADDRESS UNIVERSITY  
AUDIENCES. THROUGH SUCH GOODWILL TOURS, THE UNITED STATES  
HAS SOUGHT TO SHARE SPACE KNOWLEDGE WITH OTHER NATIONS  
AND TO PROMOTE PEACEFUL SPACE EXPLORATION.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE ASTRONAUTS' PROPOSED ITINERARY:

SENEGAL - JUNE 6  
NIGER - JUNE 8  
NIGERIA - JUNE 10  
CAMEROON - JUNE 13  
PAKISTAN - JUNE 17

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INDIA - JUNE 19  
SINGAPORE - JUNE 21  
INDONESIA - JUNE 24  
PHILIPPINES - JUNE 27  
MICRONESIA - JUNE 29  
FIJI - JULY 1. RUSH

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 MAY 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE094536  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** J. E. CLARK  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980224  
**Subject:** CHALLENGER  
**TAGS:** OVIP  
**To:** ABIDJAN  
DAKAR  
ISLAMABAD  
JAKARTA  
LAGOS  
MADRID  
MANILA

NAIROBI  
NEW DELHI  
NIAMEY

**Type:** TE

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